

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00

AID-05 USIA-06 /047 W

-----037141 092102Z /72

R 081845Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3571

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 2163

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: UNESCO, BB

SUBJ: VISIT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE US NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO TO BARBADOS

REF: PARAMARIBO 0900(NOT SENT STATE)

1. IN THE ABSENCE OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, GUERRA-MONDRAGON AND EMBASSY'S CONTROLOFFICER MET ON AUGUST 22 WITH CANON HAROLD TUDOR, DEPUTY CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER TO DISCUSS UNESCO PROJECT. WHILE TUDOR SAT VERY ATTENTIVE THROUGHOUT MOST OF GUERRA'S PRESENTATION, HE INDICATED FOLLOWING GUERRA'S STATEMENT THAT HE DID NOT THINK THAT THE BARBADOS GOVT WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE STUDY. AT GUERRA'S URGING TUDOR DID AGREE TO INTRODUCE US TO ANOTHER GOVT OFFICIAL, NIGEL HARPER, AN OFFICER IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE. HARPER WAS VERY FAMILIAR WITH SUBJECT AND STATED THAT HE TOO ATTEMPTED TO DO STUDY ALONG SAME LINES BUT HAS NOT RECEIVED FULL SUPPORT WITHIN THE BARBADOS GOVT. HE SAID THAT BARBADOS UNESCO COMMISSION HAD BEEN DISSOLVED BUT HE SHOWED WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT RE-ACTIVATION. HARPER WAS GIVEN A COPY OF STUDY PAPER. AFTERNOON WAS SPENT DISCUSSING PAPER WITH ELTON MOTTLEY, DIRECTOR, YORUBA FOUNDATION, A BLACK CULTURAL CENTER, WHO AGREED TO USE HIS INFLUENCE TO SUPPORT

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STUDY.

2. AT A DINNER PARTY GIVEN BY THE AMBASSADOR, GUERRA MET WITH SEVERAL BARBADIAN ACADEMICS AND JUDGING FROM THEIR COMMENTS, ALL MEMBERS OF THIS GROUP SEEMED VERY INTERESTED IN THE STUDY AND SAW THE NEED TO GET IT UNDERWAY WITH BARBADOS PARTICIPATING. THE

FOLLOWING DAY WAS SPENT IN FOLLOW UP MEETINGS WITH A FEW MEMBERS OF LATTER GROUP. A COPY OF THE STUDY PAPER WAS GIVEN TO EACH PERSON WHOM GUERRA FELT WOULD ACTUALLY SUPPORT PROJECT AND HE HAS FOLLOWED UP WITH LETTERS TO SOME.

COMMENT: WHILE EMBASSY FEELS THAT IT'S TOO EARLY TO PREDICT WHETHER BARBADOS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE UNESCO STUDY, THERE ARE SOME INDICATIONS THAT THE GOVT IS NOT INTERESTED. THE SUCCESS OF THE PROJECT CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED THRU THE WORK OF INTERESTED BARBADIANS WHO MUST LOBBY FOR COMMISSION'S RE-ACTIVATION. IN VIEW OF CERTAIN RECENT DECISIONS REACHED BY GOB AS IT RELATES TO USG-GOB ACTIVITIES, EMBASSY FEELS IN ORDER TO GAIN BARBADOS' PARTICIPATION, INITIATIVE MUST ORIGINATE WITH LOCAL GROUPS. AS STATED EARLIER, EMBASSY WILL MONITOR AND ASSIST IN OTHER WAYS. GUERRA HAS AGREED TO THIS APPROACH.
EDDY

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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